EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDER BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FILLMORE FIELD OFFICE WEST DESERT DISTRICT

Emergency Closure of Selected Public Lands in portions of Juab County, Utah

Action: Pursuant to 43 CFR 9268.3(d) and 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is giving notice that public lands west of Nephi, Utah, known as the Little Sahara Recreation Area, as described below, are closed to all forms of public access, effective immediately. Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention and recommendations from state and local public health authorities, the BLM is temporarily closing Little Sahara Recreation Area to limit the spread of COVID-19. The health and safety of staff and visitors in these facilities is our number one priority.

Affected Area: Public lands affected by this closure of the Little Sahara Recreation Area are described as follows:

Lands west of Utah Highway 6 in the Salt Lake Meridian, Utah as described below:

T.12 S., R.4 W.

Sec. 19, lots 3 and 4, E½SW¼, and SE¼;

Sec. 20, W¹/₂SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SW¹/₄;

Sec. 28, S1/2SW1/4;

Sec. 29, W1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, W1/2,SE1/4;

Secs. 30-33, inclusive;

Sec. 34, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and S¹/₂SE¹/₄.

T. 13 S., R. 4 W.

Secs. 3 to 10, inclusive;

Sec. 15, N¹/₂, SW¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄, and SW¹/₄ SE¹/₄;

Sec. 16 to 21, inclusive;

Sec. 22, NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4;

Sec. 28, lots 1,2,3,and 4;

Sec. 29, lots 1,2,3,and 4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4, and W1/2SE1/4;

Secs. 30 and 31;

Sec. 32, W1/2E1/2, W1/2.

T. 14 S., R. 4 W.

Sec. 5, lots 1,2,3, and 4, S¹/₂N¹/₂, SW¹/₄, and W¹/₂SE¹/₄;

Secs. 6 and 7;

Sec. 8, W¹/₂:

Sec. 17, W1/2NW1/4;

Sec. 18.

T. 12 S., R. 5 W.

Sec. 24, S1/2;

Sec. 25 to 29, inclusive;

Sec. 30, SE¼NE¼, SE¼SW¼, and SE¼;

Secs 31 to 36, inclusive.

T. 13 S., R 5 W.

Secs. 1 to 36, inclusive.

T. 14 S., R. 5 W.

Secs. 1 to 5, inclusive;

Sec. 6, lots 1 to 9, inclusive, S½NE¼, SE½NW¼, E½SW¼, and SE¼;

Sec. 7, E1/2;

Sec. 8, to 15, inclusive:

Sec. 16, N¹/₂;

Sec. 17, N¹/₂;

Sec. 18, NE1/4NE1/4;

Secs. 22 to 24, inclusive

Beyond the primary entrance to the Recreation Area, along with campgrounds which are accessed off the Weiss Highway at the intersection. The Weiss Highway connects with Highway US 6.

The area described contains approximately 60,000 acres in Juab County, Utah.

Prohibitions:

- 1. You must not enter the closure area.
- 2. All recreation vehicle use and camping is prohibited within the boundaries of the Little Sahara Recreation Area

Dates: This closure is effective immediately and will remain in effect until such a time conditions allow for safe use of the recreation area. Public may continue to enjoy BLM managed public lands in other areas within the West Desert District while following the CDC's guidance.

Supplemental Information: Under 43 CFR 9268.3, and 43 CFR 8364.1, the following are exempt from the provisions of this order:

- a. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force engaged in fire, emergency, or law enforcement activities, or public utility employees engaged in emergency repairs.
- b. BLM employees, contractors, or agents engaged in official duties;
- c. Individuals operating within the scope of their official and legitimate governmental duties;
- d. Additional persons may be allowed but must carry written approval signed by the BLM Authorized Officer, West Desert District.

Addresses: The closure notice, Little Sahara Closure Plan and map of the closure area will be posted at the BLM Fillmore Field Office at 95 East 500 North Fillmore, Utah and the West Desert District Office, 2370 South Decker Lake BLVD, West Valley City, Utah, and in the vicinity of the Little Sahara Recreation Area. The areas affected by this closure order will be posted with appropriate regulatory signs and/or physical barriers to notify the public of the closure.

Penalties: On all public lands, under section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. 1 733(a), 43 CFR 8360.0-7, and 43 CFR 9262.1, any person who violates any of these supplementary rules, closures or restrictions on public lands of this order may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined no more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Such violations may also be subject to enhancement fines provided for by 18 U.S.C. 3571 (not to exceed \$100,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months).

March 24, 2020

Effective: This order will be effective March 26, 2020 at 1:00 pm Mountain Standard Time

Field Manager

Fillmore Field Office

West Desert District

Bureau of Land Management

Mule D. Stato